

Applecroft Care Home Ltd

Applecroft Care Home

Inspection report

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22 February 2022

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Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Applecroft Care Home provides nursing and personal care for 75 older people and for people living with dementia. At the time of our inspection 67 people lived in the service.

People were supported to stay safe when they met their friends and/or family members. At the time of the inspections normal visiting had been suspended due to a COVID-19 outbreak. Essential care givers and relatives of people on end of life care were welcomed. The service was following government guidelines.

Visitors phoned to arrange a time to visit; they were asked to complete a COVID-19 test before entering the service. On entering the building visitors were asked to provide a negative COVID-19 test, their temperatures were taken and a health declaration completed. Plans were in place to isolate people and keep people separate when they had tested positive COVID-19 to reduce the risk of transmission.

Stocks of the right standard of personal protective equipment (PPE) were well maintained and staff used and disposed of it correctly. Guidance on the use of PPE and current IPC procedures were clearly visible across the service and available in picture format.

People and staff members had an individual risk assessment so that care and support could be tailored to everyone's individual requirement.

Staff had received training in infection control to keep people safe. Staff completed regular testing for COVID-19 as per government guidance. There was a clear and robust cleaning schedule in place. The building was clean and odour free.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

Inspected but not rated

Applecroft Care Home

Detailed findings

Background to this inspection

We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. This inspection was planned to check whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

As part of CQC's response to the COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had in place. We also asked the provider about any staffing pressures the service was experiencing and whether this was having an impact on the service.

This inspection took place on 22 February 2022 and was unannounced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

Staffing

- The provider told us they had measures in place to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 related staff pressures.

How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?

- We were assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections.
- We were assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules.
- We were assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service.
- We were assured that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff.
- We were assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises.
- We were assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.

Visiting in care homes

- The provider's visiting policy followed current government guidance. Visitors we spoke with confirmed this and that they had been encouraged to visit regularly.

From 11 November 2021 registered persons must make sure all care home workers and other professionals visiting the service are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless they have an exemption or there is an emergency.

- The Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes, but the service was meeting the current requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.